



Australia-France **Indo-Pacific Studies Program**

VISITING FELLOWSHIP GUIDELINES



VISITING FELLOWSHIP GRANTS

The 2024–2027 Australia–France Indo–Pacific Studies Program (AFIPS) provides opportunities for academic exchange, projects, and public outreach on the Indo–Pacific strategic and economic environment and non-traditional security issues. The program is delivered in partnership with the ANU National Security College and with support from the Australian Government through the Australia–France Roadmap.

Grants overview

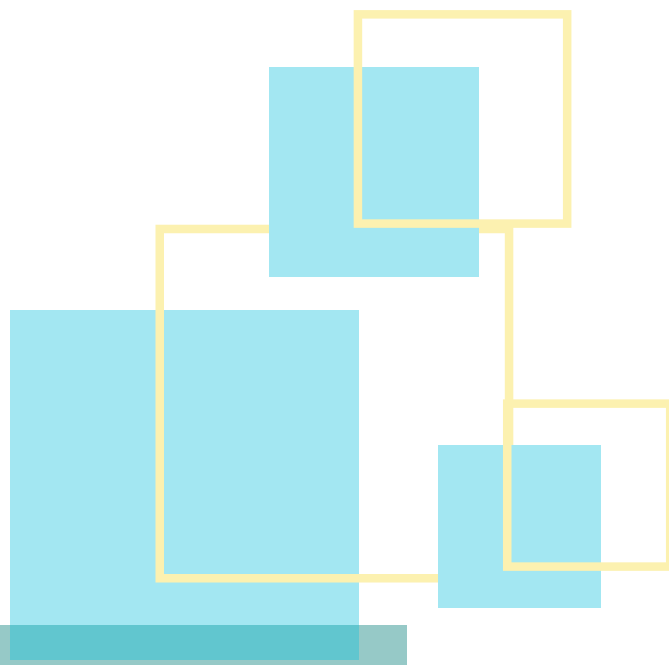
In line with the overall objectives of the AFIPS Program, the visiting fellowships grants are intended to facilitate deeper links between Indo-Pacific, French, and Australian scholars, students and policy makers, fostering collaboration and exchange for social scientists with shared interests.

Visiting fellows have the option of spending up to three (3) months based at one host institution in Australia and to travel for conferences and research activities in the Indo-Pacific region, or to arrange one primary host institution (where the most amount of time would be spent), and spend shorter stays with other host institutions within Australia.

Flexibility is offered when fellows are designing their itineraries, to maximise the potential for exchange and collaboration.

Process

- Proposals submitted by 31 August 2026
- Eligibility screening
- Reviews undertaken by AFIPS Standing Assessment Committee
- Outcomes announced (expected October 2026)
- Funding agreements executed and research activity undertaken.
- Visits must be completed no later than 01 November 2027.



PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Fellowships are intended to enhance research and translation capacities among social scientists working on issues of mutual interest to Australia and France in the Indo-Pacific region, including but not limited to:

- Foreign policy, defence, or strategic studies
- Demography issues
- Gender
- Climate change
- Equality
- Migration
- Cultural and economic
- Trade, diplomacy, and international development relations
- Indigenous knowledge

FUNDING

Financial arrangements for the program are designed to subsidise living expenses and research activity costs of visiting Fellows, rather than constitute their typical income.

These will ultimately be negotiated on an individual basis according to the length of visit and proposed research activities, but as a rule will constitute the following paid either to the individual visiting fellow or their home institution:

- International travel (economy class) up to AU\$2,400 per visiting fellow
- Daily stipend to cover food, accommodation, and other living expenses of up to AU\$150 per day for 90 days per visiting Fellow
- Conference/Training allowance – for example, workshop and conference attendance, specialist research training, field trip and project support costs up to AU\$3,000 per visiting Fellow.

Total cost per visiting Fellow covered by the project: max. AUD \$18,900.

It is expected that visiting fellowships provide a capacity building opportunity for early career researchers, and therefore funding considerations recognise that salaries, wages, additional overheads and indirect costs incurred by visiting Fellows are in-kind contributions to the project by the applicant. Applicants are encouraged to secure additional support to assist in covering the additional costs of the trip (for instance, gaining subsidised support from the proposed host institution).

ELIGIBILITY

- Eligible applicants must be early-career social science researchers affiliated (by nationality or place of work) with Indo-Pacific nations (excluding Australia), mainland France or French overseas territories, who have completed their PhD within the last 5 years. Applicants must have conferred their PhD or show evidence of conferral by the time their visit will commence.
- Institutional affiliation to a university or equivalent research or cultural organisation (including think tanks) is required, with a continuing appointment at their home institution for the period of the visiting Fellowship.
- Visiting Fellows are expected to be based full-time in Australia for the duration of the Fellowship, with possible exceptions for field work, conferences, and workshops in the Indo-Pacific region.

We recognise career interruptions can have a significant impact on the period between conferral of a researcher's PhD and the submission of an application. We therefore allow extension of the eligibility periods for specified career interruptions.

The following significant and non-overlapping career interruptions will be eligible:

Reason for career interruption	Time which can be claimed (minimum period of one month)
International relocation	Time commensurate with the interruption, not exceeding three months per international relocation.
Child-care as primary carer (includes periods of parental leave as well as part-time work while caring for one or more children)	Up to two years per dependent child
Other caring responsibilities (including care of a dependent child due to illness or disability)	Time commensurate with the interruption.
Medical condition or disability	Time commensurate with the interruption.
Non-research employment (if not concurrent with research employment) or unemployment	Time commensurate with the interruption.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Proposals should be discussed with the host institution/s prior to submission. When completing applications, visiting Fellows are encouraged to include as much detail as possible about conferences and research activities for the intended stay.

Fellows are expected to have endorsement/s from host institution/s for the duration of their stay.

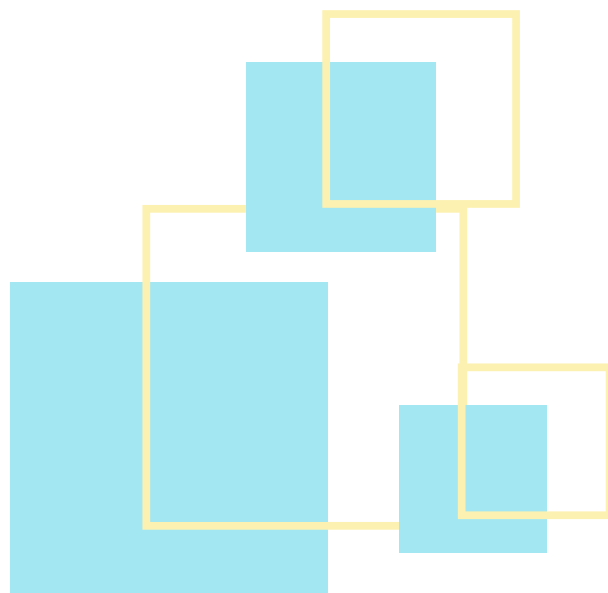
If your research activity meets the conditions for eligibility, you can submit your application online via the [Jotform link](#) on the Academy AFIPS website.

Submitted applications will be assessed by the AFIPS Standing Assessment Committee. All applicants will be informed of the outcome via email.

Visit the [AFIPS Website](#) for more information, information about past grant recipients. For further enquiries, please contact the International Team team via international@socialsciences.org.au

APPLICATION SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

- ☐ The research activity is anchored in the social sciences and aligns with the Program Objectives
- ☐ The proposed fellowship will commence in the 2026 calendar year
- ☐ The proposed fellowship itinerary budget meets the conditions of each line item (travel, daily stipend, research activity allowances).
- ☐ Signed copy/copies of the host institution endorsement form/s confirming the host arrangement
- ☐ Current CV (two pages maximum) for the fellowship applicant
- ☐ Complete all sections of the online application form.



PREPARING A STRONG APPLICATION

The Academy encourages applicants to consider the following when completing their **Grant Proposal** form:

- Outline of the planned research to be undertaken during the Fellowship and how it connects to the AFIPS Program objectives
- Impact of the planned research activity outputs to arise from the Fellowship, considering the innovation and scholarly significance of the Fellowship activities, as well as providing as much detail as possible about plans to maximise engagement and networking opportunities.
- Feasibility of the planned Fellowship activities within the grant funding available
- Track record of visiting Fellow, considering preparedness to fulfil the proposed research activities and AFIPS Program objectives.

Assessment criteria

Applications will be assessed on the following four (4) criteria (equally weighted):

- Quality of the proposed research (scholarly merit, innovation, relevance).
- Impact of the proposed activity (capacity to build long-term collaborations and networks).
- Feasibility of the activity within the proposed budget and timeframe.
- Track record of the applicant(s), taking into account career stage and career interruptions.

The selection committee will also consider diversity factors, including gender, career stage, and representation from low- and middle-income (LMI) Pacific countries.

Fellowship International Travel Considerations

Relevant and up to date information and requirements for the types of visas in Australia can be found on the Australian Department of Home Affairs Visa list, and visiting Fellows are strongly encouraged to make visa support/sponsorship arrangements with their intended host institution/s. The Academy may be able to act as a supporter for visiting Fellows wishing to apply for a Temporary Activity visa (subclass 408) – Other Social and Cultural Activity (Invited Participant), subject to certain conditions.

The Academy provides successful applicants with some general country-specific information to assist with their stay in Australia (including health and insurance), however it is a visiting Fellow's responsibility to ensure they meet visa requirements, make relative arrangements with their prospective host institution/s and submit all required documentation on time to the appropriate institutions

CONDITIONS OF FELLOWSHIPS

By submitting your application, you will be asked to acknowledge and agree to the following conditions:

- Information on the application form is collected to make recommendations to the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia on the allocation of financial assistance under their respective budgets. The information collected may be passed to assessors for the purposes of obtaining a peer-review assessment of the application. It may also be passed to other funding bodies and other public organisations (inc. Universities and research bodies) judged appropriate by the funding organisations. In other instances, information on this form can be disclosed without your consent where authorised or required by law.
- It is the Fellow's responsibility to ensure they have the correct visa and travel insurance required for their stay.
- Fellowships must be commenced within the period nominated by the Fellow, and endorsed by the host institution/s unless otherwise approved by the Academy.
- Fellows are expected to be based full-time in Australia for the duration of the Fellowship.
- Fellows are expected to comply with applicable domestic and international laws and ethics requirements, including obtaining any permits or permissions required for them to lawfully and ethically conduct their research activities.
- While the Academy gives careful consideration to applications, it is not able to enter into discussion or correspondence regarding the reasons why an application is unsuccessful.
- Successful applicants will comply with all requirements and responsibilities set out in the grant guidelines and funding agreement.

CONTACT

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